

UPI111

(KISSINGER)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAS POSTPONED AGAIN A TRIP TO MAINLAND CHINA AND IS ENGAGED IN INTENSE DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY TO TRY TO GET OBSERVANCE OF A MIDDLE EAST CEASE-FIRE, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID POSTPONEMENT OF KISSINGER'S TRIP WAS NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION, BUT HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

"THERE IS NOW AN INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC EFFORT UNDER WAY TO SECURE THE CEASE-FIRE ON THE GROUND IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN TERMS OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED (BY THE U. N. SECURITY COUNCIL) IN NEW YORK."

UPI 10-23 01:54 PED

UPI115

ADD 1 KISSINGER, WASHINGTON (UPI-111)

"WE HAD HOPED THERE WOULD BE COMPLETE COMPLIANCE BY ALL PARTIES ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE CEASE-FIRE RESOLUTION," THE DEPARTMENT'S MIDEAST SPOKESMAN, ROBERT MCCLOSKEY SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE AGREEMENT WORKED OUT BY KISSINGER AND SOVIET LEADERS IN MOSCOW -- AND APPROVED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL -- CALLED FOR THE CEASE-FIRE TO GO INTO EFFECT WITHIN 12 HOURS OF ITS ADOPTION. "UNFORTUNATELY THAT HAS NOT PROVED TO BE THE CASE," HE SAID.

UPI 10-23 01:59 PED

UPI115

ADD 2 KISSINGER, WASHINGTON

MCCLOSKEY TOLD NEWSMEN THAT NEW DATES FOR KISSINGER'S TRIP TO CHINA, PLUS A STOP IN JAPAN, WERE BEING NEGOTIATED. "THERE WILL BE A JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS SOME TIME SOON," MCCLOSKEY SAID.

KISSINGER ARRIVED BACK IN WASHINGTON EARLY THIS MORNING FROM HIS TRIP TO MOSCOW -- WITH A STOP IN TEL AVIV ON THE WAY HOME -- AND CONFERRED WITH PRESIDENT NIXON ON THE MIDEAST SITUATION LATER IN THE MORNING AFTER HEARING THAT THE CEASE-FIRE HAD BROKEN DOWN HARDLY BEFORE IT STARTED.

MCCLOSKEY SAID THE NEW DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS ON KISSINGER'S PART INCLUDED CONTACTS WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

"WE HAVE TO ASSUME THAT BOTH EGYPT AND ISRAEL STILL ARE COMMITTED TO A CEASE-FIRE," MCCLOSKEY SAID. "THERE ARE ALWAYS DYNAMICS OF THE BATTLEFIELD THAT PREVENTS A CEASE-FIRE FROM COMING INTO EFFECT AT THE STATED HOUR. THERE IS NOTHING TO INDICATE EITHER HAVE CHANGED THEIR POSITION."

MCCLOSKEY WAS UNABLE TO SAY "THERE EVER WAS A TIME WHEN THE GUNS FELL SILENT ON THE BATTLEFIELD."

UPI 10-23 02:02 PED